

## House Resolution 830

By: Representative Smith of the 168<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the honorary name of County Road 212 in Bacon County as the James Deen  
2 Road and urging that a sign be erected below the official name of Swamp Road given by the  
3 Bacon County Board of Commissioners which would read as follows: "In Honor of James  
4 Deen"; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, James Deen was born on September 7, 1924, to his proud parents, Roy Stanford  
6 Deen and Arrhena Tanner Deen. He had two brothers, Roy Sammy Deen and Delano Deen,  
7 and one sister, Doloris Deen Long. He graduated from Bacon County High School in 1943;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, he was inducted in the Army at Fort McPherson, Georgia, on June 15, 1943,  
10 and from there was sent to serve in combat in northern France. During his time of service  
11 he was decorated with the EAME Service Medal with one Bronze Star, Good Conduct  
12 Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and Meritorious Unit Award. He received an  
13 Honorable Discharge on June 28, 1946; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Deen graduated from Georgia Southern University with a degree in  
15 education and also attended Baylor University's Science Program in 1964. He then became  
16 a very respected teacher with the Atkinson County and Coffee County school systems where  
17 he touched the lives of many students until his retirement; and

18 WHEREAS, during his life Mr. Deen was known for being very active throughout his  
19 community where he volunteered in many areas, including serving as a Sunday School  
20 Teacher at Kirkland United Methodist Church, an advisor to the Hi-Y Club, the administrator  
21 of summer work programs for high school students, and the president of the Atkinson County  
22 Retired Teachers Association; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Deen is notoriously known for the part he played in the rallying together  
24 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars members in Bacon County. He worked faithfully to get

25 them united and reorganized together to serve as members of the VFW Post #4625. He  
26 solicited local governing bodies and state officials for funding to update and renovate the  
27 local post building and led a county-wide project to have honorary road names given in  
28 recognition of members that had been killed in action, wounded in action, or were prisoners  
29 of war; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Deen was married to the lovely Maxine Tanner Deen, and they became the  
31 proud parents of four wonderful children: James William Deen, Roy Wendell Deen, Charles  
32 Dewy Deen, and Angela Elizabeth Deen Dratch. They were blessed with four adorable  
33 grandchildren: Raymond William Deen, Kathleen Elizabeth Deen, Benjamin Deen Dratch,  
34 and Samuel Jay Dratch; and

35 WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, James Deen passed away and our country lost a very  
36 noble and loyal friend. We feel that after his many years of selfless service where he sought  
37 no honor or recognition of his many works, it is only fitting and proper that the State of  
38 Georgia join Bacon County in paying tribute to this man's courage, valor, and dedication to  
39 God and his country by placing this honorary road name as a lasting memorial to the  
40 well-lived life of James Deen.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
42 the members of this body recognize the honorary name of County Road 212 in Bacon County  
43 as the James Deen Road and urge that a sign be erected below the official name of Swamp  
44 Road given by the Bacon County Board of Commissioners which would read, "In Honor of  
45 James Deen."

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
47 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Bacon County Board of  
48 Commissioners and the family of James Deen.